IN THE CLAIMS

The status of each claim in the present application is listed below.

Claims 1-52: (Canceled).

53. (New) Isolated and purified pili obtained from *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, wherein the pili:

(a) comprise pilin monomers, wherein the pilin monomers comprise proteins having a molecular weight of 14-25 kDa,

(b) are in the form of aggregated fibers, wherein the fibers have a width of about 2 to 7 nm and a length of at least 5 nm, and

(c) are immunogenic.

54. (New) The pili of Claim 53, which have been separated from said *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* by mechanical shearing, differential centrifugation or isopycnic separation.

55. (New) The pili of Claim 53, wherein the fibers have a length of at least 10 nm.

56. (New) The pili of Claim 53, wherein the pilin monomers comprise SEQ ID NO: 1.

57. (New) The pili of Claim 53, wherein the pilin monomers comprise SEQ ID NO: 2.

58. (New) The pili of Claim 53, wherein the pilin monomers comprise SEQ ID NO: 3.

59. (New) The pili of Claim 53, wherein the pilin monomers comprise SEQ ID NO: 5.

60. (New, Withdrawn) A method of producing the pili of Claim 53, comprising subjecting cells of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* which produce the pili to mechanical shearing, differential centrifugation or isopycnic separation and then isolating the pili from the cells.

61. (New) A method of detecting a *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection in a subject, comprising contacting a body fluid from the subject with the pili of Claim 53 and assaying for the presence of an antibody to the pili.

62. (New) The method of Claim 61, wherein the subject is a human.

63. (New) The method of Claim 61, wherein the body fluid is serum.

64. (New) A method of inducing an immune response against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, comprising administering an effective amount of the pili of Claim 53 to a subject in need thereof.

65. (New) The method of Claim 61, wherein the subject is a human.

66. (New) An isolated and purified pilin protein monomer having a molecular weight of 14-25 kDa and comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3 or 5.

67. (New) The pilin protein monomer of Claim 66, which comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.

68. (New) The pilin protein monomer of Claim 66, which comprises SEQ ID NO: 2.

69. (New) The pilin protein monomer of Claim 66, which comprises SEQ ID NO: 3.

70. (New) The pilin protein monomer of Claim 66, which comprises SEQ ID NO: 5.

71. (New) A method of producing the pilin protein monomer of Claim 66, comprising transforming a bacterial host cell with a nucleic acid which encodes said SEQ ID NO: and isolating the pilin protein monomer.